

TRAFFIC ALERT

VirginiaDOT.org

RELEASE: IMMEDIATE STA09-108 CONTACT: Sandy Myers (540) 332-9201 May 19, 2009

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I-81 SOUTHBOUND IN ROCKINGHAM COUNTY CLOSED DURING EARLY MORNING HOURS

STAUNTON – 11:50 P.M. – Both southbound lanes on Interstate 81 in Rockingham County remain closed after a tractor trailer accident, which occurred around 10 p.m. The accident is at mile marker 238.7 which is between exit 240 at Mount Crawford and exit 235 in the Weyers Cave area. Traffic is being detoured off I-81 at exit 240 taking Route 257 to Route 11 to Route 256 and re-entering I-81 at exit 235.

A medical helicopter has which was at the accident site earlier has left the area.

Crews are now working on straightening the bent wheel axels of the tractor trailer enough to move the truck. The truck is reported to be loaded with copper.

Both lanes are expected to remain closed until approximately 1 a.m. This timeframe can change depending on the progress of the work.

Motorists should expect delays in the area.

The VDOT Staunton District serves Frederick, Shenandoah, Clarke, Warren, Page, Rockingham, Augusta, Highland, Rockbridge, Alleghany and Bath counties.

Traffic alerts and traveler information can be obtained by dialing 511. In areas where 511 is unavailable, dial 1-866-MY511VA (866-695-1182) (TTY/TDD users, call 711). Traffic alerts and traveler information also are available at 511Virginia.org.

Highway safety is everyone's responsibility. Virginia's highway safety partnership — the Virginia Department of Transportation, Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles and Virginia State Police — challenges you to help prevent highway fatalities. Buckle up. Avoid distractions. Share the road. Drive drug- and alcohol-free. Obey speed limits. For more information on the Highway Safety Challenge and things you can do to avoid becoming Virginia's next traffic fatality, visit www.safeVAhighways.org.